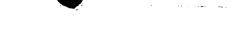
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METHODS FOR DIAGNOSING AND TREATING AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides a method of detecting autoimmune disease in a mammal, comprising providing a biological sample from a mammal and detecting proteasome activity, wherein a reduction in proteasome activity from a basal state is indicative of autoimmune disease. In addition, the invention encompasses a method of treating an autoimmune disease in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal suspected of suffering from an autoimmune disease an agent which restores NFkB activity in an amount and for a time sufficient to result in normal NFkB activity in the mammal.